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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/022,284	12/20/2001	Kei Tomihara	249-244	7654
23117	7590	01/14/2004	EXAMINER	
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 1100 N GLEBE ROAD 8TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22201-4714			YUAN, DAH WEI D	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		1745		

DATE MAILED: 01/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Offic Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/022,284	TOMIHARA ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit		
	Dah-Wei D. Yuan	1745	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1.) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 10 . 6) Other: _____

**CADMIUM NEGATIVE ELECTRODE FOR ALKALINE STORAGE BATTERY AND
METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME**

Examiner: Yuan S.N. 10/022,284 Art Unit: 1745 January 7, 2004

Detailed Action

1. The Applicant's amendment filed on October 28, 2003 was received. Claims 1-6 were amended.

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S.C. code not included in this action can be found in the prior Office Action (Paper No. 7).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.
4. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.
The recitation "a cadmium active substance having a conductive core on a surface of which nickel powder is coated" in claims 1 and 3 are not disclosed in the instant specification. If applicant believe said phrase is fully defined, it is requested that applicant indicates column and line, and/or figure with number, to support the limitations.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Yasuda on claims 1,3,5 are withdrawn, because the independent claims 1 and 3 have been amended and reference does not teach the inclusion of nickel in the electrode substrate.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Yasuda and Treger et al. on claims 2,4,6 are withdrawn, because independent claims 1,3 have been amended.

7. The claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Yasuda and Linden et al. on claims 7,8 are withdrawn, because independent claims 1,3 have been amended.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed on October 28, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's principle arguments are

The instant specification teaches a sintered type electrode substrate coated with nickel powder on a surface of a conductive core.

In response to Applicant's arguments, please consider the following comments.

The instant disclosure teaches a nickel (containing) sintered substrate is immersed in an impregnating solution containing cadmium nitrate. After drying, it is subjected to alkali treatment so that the pores of the nickel-sintered substrate is filled with cadmium hydroxide. See page 9, lines 12-24. The specification does not have support for the recitation a cadmium active substance having a conductive core on a surface of which nickel powder is coated" as recited in claims 1 and 3.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dah-Wei D. Yuan whose telephone number is (571) 272-1295. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick J. Ryan, can be reached on (571) 272-1292. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Dah-Wei D. Yuan
January 8, 2004


Patrick Ryan
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1700